

Wind Direction

Coasters Harbor Navy Yacht Club

www.nwc.navy.mil/chnyc



Reading The Wind

- **You need wind to sail**
- **You have to know the wind**
 - **Direction**
 - **Velocity**
- **Many clues**
 - **On land**
 - **On water**
 - **Other boats**

Look Onshore

- **Flags show wind direction**



- **Windsocks show direction and velocity**



Look On The Water

- **Ripples caused by winds**
- **Puffs appear slightly darker**
- **Whitecaps form at about 12 knots**



Look At Other Boats



Wind Direction

Feel The Wind

- **Your face and your ears are built in wind indicators**
- **With experience you will sense the wind**



Wind Direction

- Described by direction wind is blowing from
- A south wind comes out of the south and blows toward the north
- Southwest wind comes from a direction between south and west

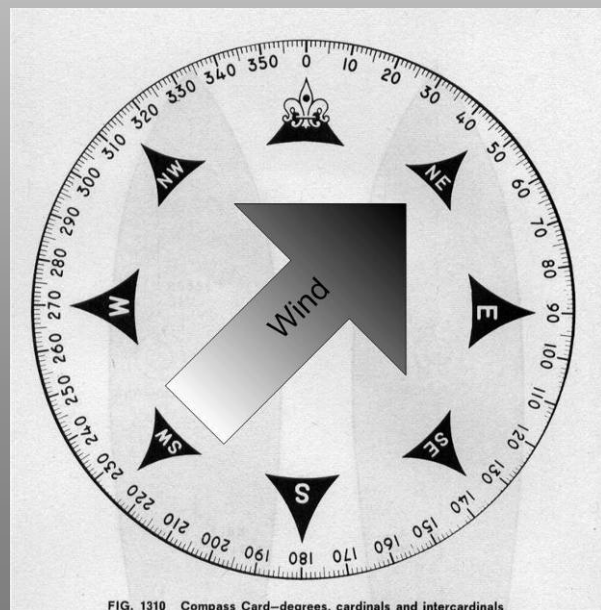


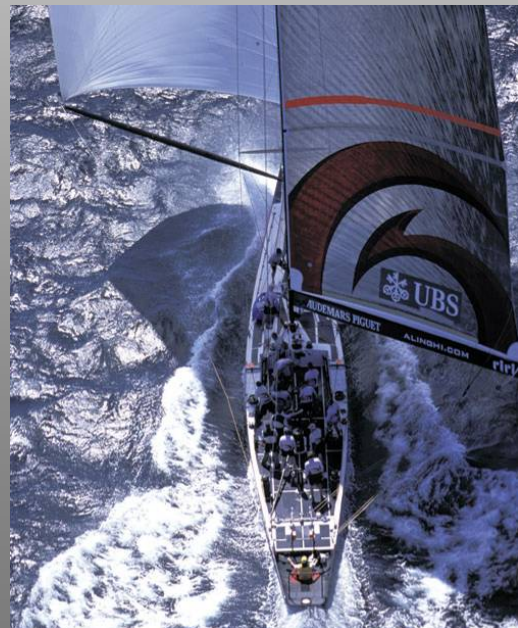
FIG. 1310 Compass Card—degrees, cardinals and intercardinals

Relative Direction

- **Upwind**
 - Into the wind



- **Downwind**
 - With the wind



Wind Direction